



HOUSE AMERICA: AN ALL HANDS ON DECK EFFORT TO ADDRESS THE NATION'S HOMELESSNESS CRISIS



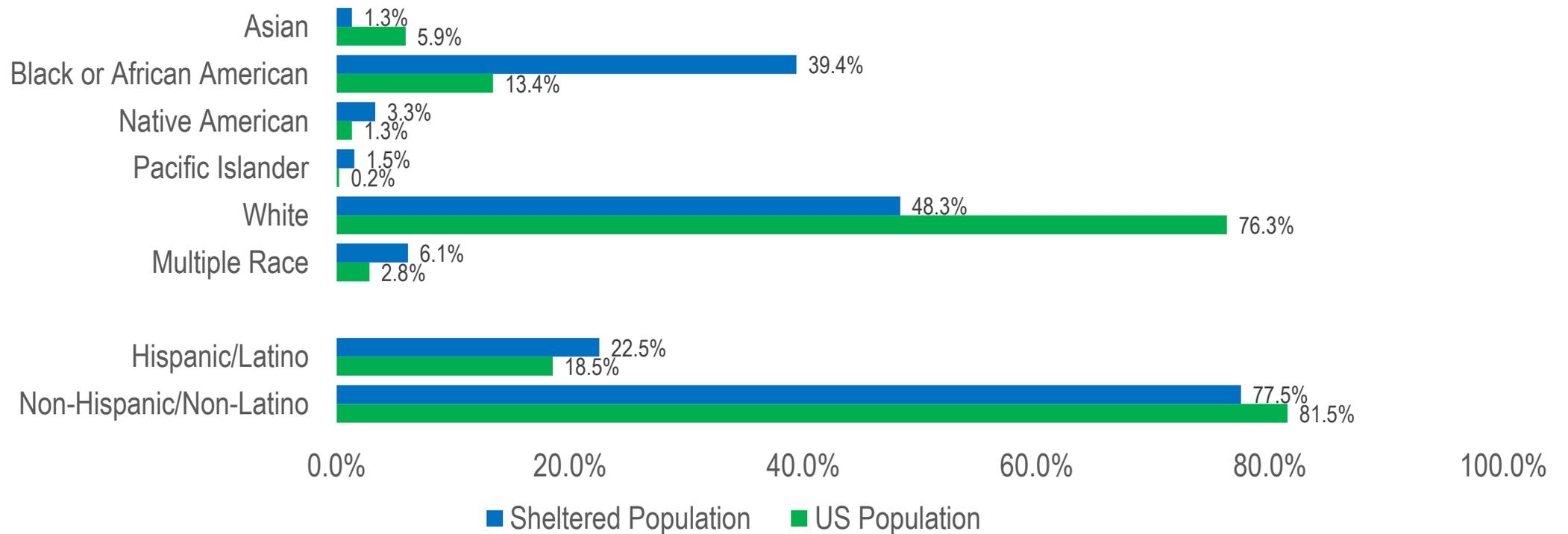
Presented to National League of Cities
December 2021

After Years of Declines, Homelessness is Rising

Homeless Population	2010 - 2016	2016 - 2020
Overall	 14%	 6%
Veterans	 47%	 6%
Families	 23%	 12%
Individuals	 10%	 15%
Chronic	 27%	 43%
Unsheltered	 24%	 28%

Racial Disparities in Homelessness

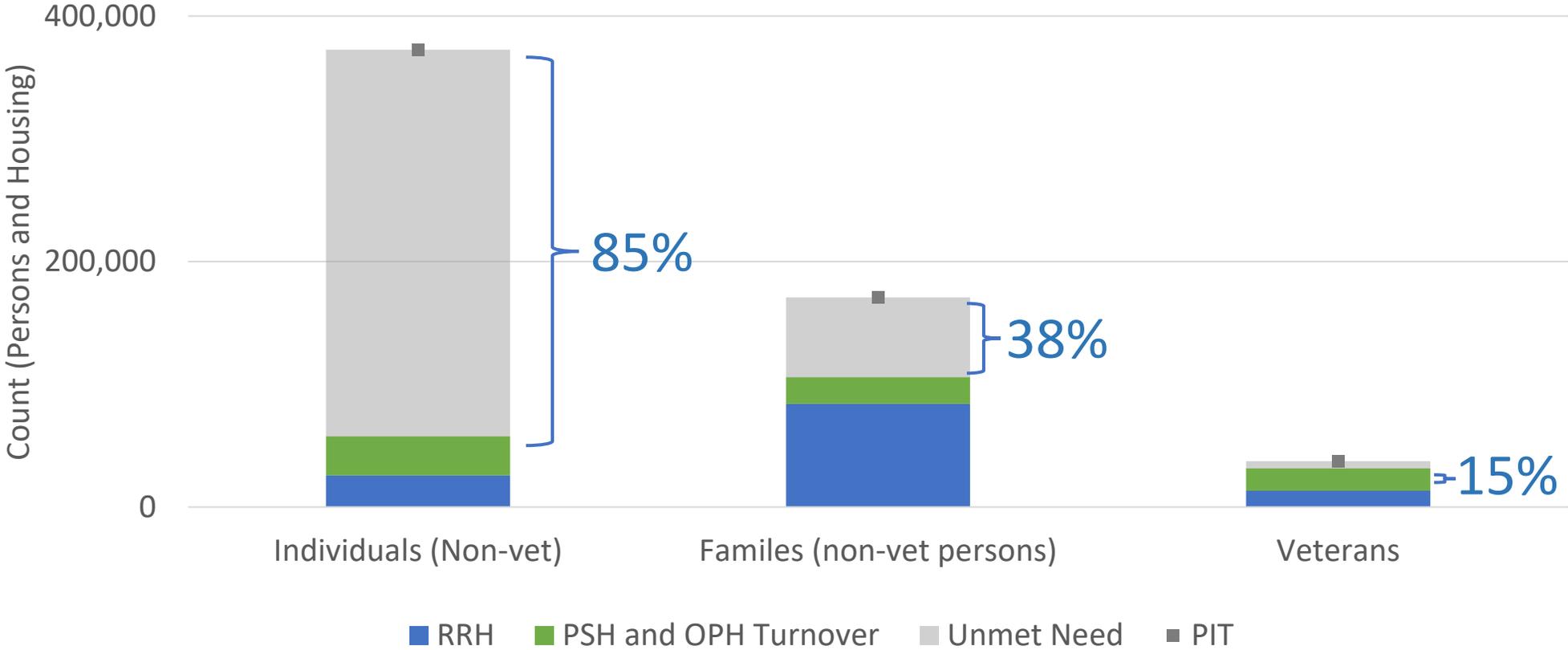
RACE AND ETHNICITY BY HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD: HOMELESS COMPARED TO U.S. POPULATION



Black or African American people were considerably overrepresented among people experiencing homelessness.

Progress Hampered by Severe Resource Scarcity

Permanent Housing Resources Compared to People Identified as Homeless in the 2020 PIT Count



The American Rescue Plan Provides Significant New Resources to Address Homelessness

- \$5 billion to provide 70,000 **Emergency Housing Vouchers** from HUD for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- \$5 billion in **HOME Investment Partnerships** grants from HUD to build supportive and affordable housing (including purchase of hotels/dormitories), rental assistance, and supportive services
- \$46 billion in **Emergency Rental Assistance** from Treasury to prevent evictions, as well as support re-housing of people evicted, displaced, at-risk of homelessness, or currently homeless
- \$350 billion in Treasury **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** to support the many needs communities face as they respond to the pandemic and its negative economic impacts, including homelessness and housing instability
- Various programs at the **Department of Health and Human Services** for supportive services including \$3 billion in mental health and substance abuse block grants. \$6 billion for community health centers, and 10% increase in Federal Medicaid match for Home and Community Based Services

House America: An All-Hands-On-Deck Effort to Address the Nation's Homelessness Crisis



House America

www.hud.gov/house_america



Re-house households experiencing homelessness through a Housing First approach



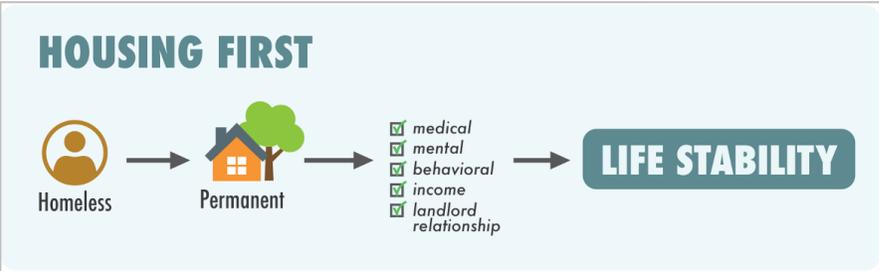
Add new units of affordable housing into the development pipeline

House America: An All-Hands-on-Deck Effort to Address the Nation's Homelessness Crisis is a federal initiative in which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) are inviting mayors, city and county leaders, tribal nation leaders, and governors into a national partnership.

House America will utilize the historic investments provided through the American Rescue Plan to address the crisis of homelessness through a Housing First approach.

House America's Goals

Re-Housing



Communities set and achieve local goals for **the number of households to be transitioned from homelessness into stable, permanent housing** using ARP emergency housing vouchers, ESG-CV rapid re-housing, HOME TBRA, and other federal and local resources **by December 31, 2022.**

Unit Creation



Communities set and achieve goals for **the number of new affordable or supportive housing units serving households experiencing homelessness that are added to the pipeline** using HOME-ARP funds, Treasury State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, and other resources **by December 31, 2022.**

Collectively, HUD hopes that by the end of 2022, at least 100,000 households will be re-housed and at least 20,000 new units of affordable or supportive housing will be added to the pipeline.

Implementation Support

- **Tools and resources** – HUD, USICH, and other agencies will develop and share written tools and resources that provide information on how to achieve House America’s goals. This includes USICH’s ARP guide and 10 Strategies “playbook” and HUD’s regularly updated FAQ.
- **Monthly “all hands on deck” webinars/calls** – Starting October, HUD, USICH, and other federal agencies will hold an all hands on deck call to discuss strategies/innovations, facilitate peer-to-peer sharing, and identify common challenges.
- **Office hours** – HUD staff also convene regular “office hours” to respond to questions and challenges from House America leaders.
- **Individual technical assistance** – HUD will provide responses to inquiries as well as hold individualized TA sessions.

August 2021



Making the Most of the American Rescue Plan: A Guide to the Funding That Impacts People Experiencing Homelessness



10 Strategies to Reduce Homelessness With the American Rescue Plan

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act was signed by President Biden on March 11, 2021, in response to the economic crisis catalyzed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The \$1.9 trillion relief legislation includes an **unprecedented \$10 billion investment in ending homelessness** through the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) [Emergency Housing Voucher \(EHV\)](#) and [HOME Investment Partnerships \(HOME-ARP\)](#) programs. This provides a **once-in-a-generation opportunity** to significantly reduce homelessness in some communities and end it in others if we simultaneously strengthen the rehousing system and expand the supply of affordable housing, especially for the lowest-income renters.

HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge’s [House America](#) initiative provides communities with the focus, resolve, and technical know-how needed to deploy these resources to maximize impact. Through *House America*, **HUD and USICH are inviting state, local, and tribal leaders to join a national partnership** to use this historic investment to address the homelessness crisis.

The path forward must be guided by equity and evidence, particularly the Housing First approach that’s proven to lower not only returns to homelessness but also costs associated with emergency services. The pandemic amplified the systemic racism that’s embedded in our housing and health institutions. People of color are overrepresented in the homeless population and more likely to contract and die from coronavirus. To reduce homelessness, we must address these deep-rooted inequities and ensure that everyone has access to housing.

USICH urges communities to **prioritize these resources for the most vulnerable**, including people living unsheltered. For the first time since this data collection began, more people are living on the streets than in shelters.

The following 10 strategies provide **practical guidance for leaders at all levels of government** to maximize the housing resources in the American Rescue Plan—as well as other federal, state, and local resources. At USICH, we work across the federal government to prevent homelessness when possible and ensure that it’s a rare, brief, and one-time experience when it happens. *We know how to end homelessness in this country. Together, we can make it happen.*

Lay the Groundwork

1. [Set Community-Specific Goals](#)
2. [Cultivate Political Will and Partnerships](#)
3. [Ensure Racial Equity in All Decision-Making](#)
4. [Reduce Administrative and Regulatory Barriers](#)

Local and State Leaders Who Have Joined to Date

Title	Leader	Jurisdiction
Mayor	Steve Adler	Austin, TX
Mayor	Brandon Scott	Baltimore, MD
Mayor	Randall Woodfin	Birmingham, AL
Mayor	Kim Janey	Boston, MA
Governor	Gavin Newsom	California
Mayor	Vi Lyles	Charlotte, NC
Mayor	Tim Kelly	Chattanooga, TN
Principal Chief	Chuck Hoskin, Jr.	Cherokee Nation
Mayor	Lori Lightfoot	Chicago, IL
Mayor	Andrew Ginther	Columbus, OH
Mayor	Michael Hancock	Denver, CO
Mayor	Quinton Lucas	Kansas City, MO
Mayor	Mike LeBarre	King City, CA
Mayor	Eric Garcetti	Los Angeles, CA
Supervisor	Holly Mitchell	LA County, CA
Governor	Janet Mills	Maine
Mayor	John Giles	Mesa, AZ

Title	Leader	Jurisdiction
Mayor	Daniella Levine Cava	Miami-Dade, FL
Mayor	Ras Baraka	Newark, NJ
Mayor	Libby Schaaf	Oakland, CA
Mayor	Jim Kenney	Philadelphia, PA
Mayor	Kate Gallego	Phoenix, AZ
Mayor	Darrell Steinberg	Sacramento, CA
Mayor	Ron Nirenberg	San Antonio, TX
Mayor	Todd Gloria	San Diego, CA
Mayor	London Breed	San Francisco, CA
Mayor	Sam Liccardo	San Jose, CA
Mayor	Van R. Johnson	Savannah, GA
Mayor	Jenny Durkan	Seattle, WA
Commissioner	Van D. Turner, Jr.	Shelby County, TN
Mayor	Tishaura Jones	St. Louis, MO
Mayor	Regina Romero	Tucson, AZ
Mayor	Muriel Bowser	Washington, DC

Build Back Better: Historic Investments in Housing and Services

The Build Back Better Act passed by the House of Representatives includes historic housing resources that can help scale housing for older adults, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness, including:

- \$500 million for Section 202 Housing for Older Adults
- \$500 million for Section 811 Housing for People with Disabilities
- \$24 billion in additional tenant-based rental assistance (vouchers), including \$7.1 billion for people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.
- Build Back Better also includes \$150 billion in investments to increase and improve Home and Community Based Services for older adults and people with disabilities as well as over \$1 billion in maternal health services, including to address social determinants of health.



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Call to Action

The screenshot shows the homepage of the House America initiative. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development logo and name, along with links for Press Room, Program Offices, Resources, Find Shelter, State Info, Contact Us, and Información en Español. Below this is a search bar and a main header area with the title "House America" and the URL "www.hud.gov/house_america". A large central graphic features the text "House America" in green, with two icons: a family of three and a house. Below the icons are two columns of text: "Re-house households experiencing homelessness through a Housing First approach" and "Add new units of affordable housing into the development pipeline". To the left of the main content is a sidebar menu with links for "House America Home", "Why House America?", "Goals", "Partners", "Get Involved", "News", "Resources", and "FAQs". Below the main graphic is a paragraph of text explaining the initiative's purpose and goals. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links for Agency, Resources, and contact information for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Visit:

https://www.hud.gov/house_america

Email: houseamerica@hud.gov